

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Lists names like J. W. Smith, W. B. Jones, etc., and their respective contributions.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.

The subscription price of the WEEKLY STAR is as follows: Single copy 1 year, postage paid, \$1.50; 3 months, .50.

WAR REMINISCENCES.

Some days ago we received a communication from a warm personal friend in this city, who saw a great deal of the war and was a most faithful and gallant soldier, relative to the bearing of Gen. Ransom and his command in the bloody fight at Chancellorsville on Sunday morning 5th May, 1863. He confirms what we said. We make an interesting extract from his letter. He says:

"Although it has been twenty-three years since that occurrence it is still green in my memory. It was about 10 a. m. that the 1st Brigade, after being completely exhausted, was ordered to fall back in rear of Ransom just as the movement began. I was struck on the head with a piece of shell and painfully injured, not being able to get from the field or render any assistance to our weary troops. I lay behind a large oak which I was quickly joined by my young friend and colleague, Louis Battle, son of Judge Battle, who was also wounded. I also remember the expression used by Battle 'that he had often read and heard of showers of lead, but he was certainly then witnessing it. In the midst of this terrible shower of bullets, I passed us, and when not more than thirty paces in front of us the General gave the command in a loud and clear voice—'Regiment advance!' This was a new thing in my head and I watched the manœuvre particularly, and saw the regiment designated mark time and ordered by the regiment on its right, then went by the right flank until the obstacle was passed, when it resumed its position in line of battle, the whole maneuver being as perfectly performed as if on the drill ground. The brigade had not opened fire but was receiving the heaviest fire of grape and shell from the front and rear, and the entire war. Poor Battle and myself recovered from our wounds in time to be left behind and there he fell, never to rise again. I was a great deal changed, July 23d, not more than ten feet from me."

This is the testimony of our friend O. A. Wiggins, of whom Gen. Lane said to us: "He was an excellent soldier." We never saw Gen. Ransom but once. A few days before the great Sunday's battle, we were travelling in the stage from Leesburg to Hillsboro. At a country inn where horses were changed we saw a youthful, erect, soldierly looking man walking near the porch as if impatient and exercising. One of his arms was in a sling and his shirt-sleeve was visible. He had been wounded in a previous battle and had not yet recovered. He was on his return to the army and in less than ten days he led his splendid Brigade into that 5th May fight in which it accomplished what the Stonewall brigade had failed to accomplish—to take the breastworks in front and hold them for a little while. On another occasion, as we happen to know, for we had the pleasure of being a visitor in the family of Mrs. Richmond, of Caswell, mother of Mrs. Ransom, General Ransom was expected at Mrs. Richmond's on a given day and failed to come. From an officer it was learned that after preparing to leave his command he found out that there was a prospect of a fight in a few days and he remained to carry out to battle his brigade. He had not been then married but a few months to a very handsome and engaging young woman.

Mr. H. A. London, editor of the Pittsboro Record, delivered the last Memorial Address at Raleigh. His subject was Gen. Bryan Grimes, as brave a man as ever entered a battle. We knew him in the forties at Chapel Hill. We knew him well afterwards and highly esteemed him, for he was a high toned, truthful, honorable, heroic man. He was not an intellectual man, but a man of plain sense with great pertinacity of will, and great solidity of character. He made a splendid record and did as much good, square, hard fighting as any man in the army from North Carolina. Mr. London's address is well done and is both interesting and instructive. We copy from it a part that supplements what we said of Ransom on another day. Mr. London says:

"Commencing on the 5th day of May, 1864, there was one almost continuous battle for a month, fighting all day and night resting on their arms in line of battle. Col. Grimes was actively engaged every day, but his services on the 12th and 19th days of May deserve special mention. The Federal troops, by a sudden movement, surprised that portion of the Confederate breastworks known as the 'Horse Shoe,' and captured about 2,000 men belonging to Gen. Edward Johnson's division. It was necessary to retake this position, and Ransom's brigade was selected for this difficult task. The charge was ordered, and while being gallantly made Gen. Ransom was wounded and was not able to keep up. At this critical juncture Col. Grimes, seeing the need for prompt action, assumed the responsibility of ordering a second charge, himself leading it, and recovered the position, and then, in the face of the many prisoners and killing more of the enemy than the brigade numbered men. Truly

THE WEEKLY STAR.

AN OLD QUESTION UP AGAIN.

The Boston Globe of July 8th, discusses the question—"Did Thomas Jefferson write the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence?" It asks if "the likeness between the two Declarations is a pure accident?" If the Globe had been familiar with the whole range of dissonant it would hardly have propounded questions that have been often answered. Mr. Jefferson says he never heard of the Mecklenburg Declaration until 1819. He could not have written it therefore.

But there is a very striking resemblance and the phraseology is identical in places. What is the explanation? It is easy enough to the careful student of the literature upon the subject since 1819, when Dr. McNeill, as he signed himself, published what purported to be the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence in the Raleigh Register of that year.

Now attend, Dr. J. McKnitt was none other than Dr. J. McKnitt Alexander, son of the elder Alexander, who figured at Charlotte in 1775. In the Raleigh Register a very important note was omitted. It was in the handwriting of the elder Alexander. What was its purport? Very important truly. It was the key to the whole question. The elder Alexander stated clearly that the Declaration of Independence to which the note was appended, was not the original copy, but he had written from memory and had made it as near the original as he could. We are ourselves writing from memory, but such is the purport of the very important note. Said the elder Alexander, with due caution—that the original was burned when his house was consumed by fire in the year 1800.

If the note had accompanied the copy that was published in the Register in 1819, it would have saved a great deal of misapprehension and discussion. How then comes there to be such a striking resemblance in the two Declarations? The explanation, we think, is easy.

Year after year the Fourth of July Declaration had been celebrated from the end of the war to the burning of the Alexander house in A. D. 1800. The Jefferson Declaration was read every year. The language of patriotism had become familiar to the public ear. Mr. Alexander doubtless knew passages by heart just as many schoolboys have known them by heart in this century. So when the old man, after the original had been destroyed in the conflagration, sat down to prepare from memory, as he says, the older and less known document (for it had never been published and had never been celebrated as the National Day had) he very naturally and easily fell into the Jeffersonian ruts and reproduced the language of the younger document, with which he was doubtless familiar.

Jefferson no doubt told the truth in his letter to John Adams when he said he had never heard of the Mecklenburg document.

But whilst we hold to the above we are equally assured in our mind, and after a somewhat protracted study of the whole question at issue, that there was once a genuine, original Mecklenburg Declaration and that the patriots of that grand historic county did assemble in Charlotte on the 19th of May, 1775, and did cause to be read the next day, the 20th, a document that was to all intents and purposes a Declaration of Independence. The evidence to sustain this view is simply overwhelming.

The fact of the well-known Resolutions of 31st May, does not exclude the conclusion as above stated. The 20th May Declaration was an expression of passion and indignation caused by the news received on the 19th, whereas the Resolutions were the matured outcome of eleven days of reflection, and were more business like, and but little less rebellious. But whether the Declaration ever existed or not, the most important fact remains that the Resolutions of 31st May, 1775, were a long way ahead of the National movement, and that is glory enough for North Carolina.

Accident on the Rail—An Engineer and a Fireman Hurt.

Passengers who arrived in the city last night from Weldon, report that an accident happened to the north-bound train on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad yesterday at 3.30 a. m. near Mt. Pleasant, four miles from Weldon, by which the engineer, Mr. Wm. McSwain, was badly injured. The driving-rods of the locomotive broke, and a serious accident was only averted by the engineer, who stuck to his post, shut off the steam and stopped the engine just before it reached a trestle, although he was badly hurt in doing so, having both hands severely scalded and being struck on the back of his head by a flying bolt, which inflicted a serious wound. The fireman jumped from the engine and is reported to have been badly hurt. The passengers were loud in their praise of the engineer, through whose heroic conduct they averted a terrible disaster. The train was completely wrecked. Engineer McSwain was brought down on the train which arrived from Weldon last night and was taken south to his home, near Florence, S. C.

Delegates Appointed. H. C. McQueen, Esq., chairman of the Democratic County Convention for New Hanover, recently held in this city, has appointed the following delegates to the Congressional and State Conventions. The Congressional Convention met at Wadesboro on Wednesday, the 21st inst., and the State Convention at Raleigh on the 25th of August.

Delegates to Congressional Convention. D. K. McKee, T. W. Strange, A. D. Brown, A. H. Green, S. C. Well, A. G. Ricard, O. H. Kennedy, P. T. Dicksey, J. D. Bellamy, Jr., J. J. Macks, M. Bellamy, W. A. Dick, Wm. Gilchrist, W. C. VonGlabbe, S. H. Terry, H. P. West, Frank H. Stedman, W. H. Bernard, Samuel Bear, Jr., John W. Perdue, Geo. N. Harris, A. Adrian, R. E. Heide, J. W. King, J. G. Oldenbute, P. Donlan, Edmund Lilly, Albert Gore, Preston Cummings, Jas. C. Stevenson, Pembroke Jones, H. W. Malloy, John Barry.

Delegates to State Convention. Chas. M. Stedman, D. K. McKee, T. W. Strange, J. J. Macks, M. Bellamy, A. G. Ricard, J. H. Sharp, J. D. Bellamy, Jr., Josh. T. James, Sol. G. Well, W. E. McKoy, John Cowan.

Both of the above delegations H. C. McQueen, chairman, and F. L. Meares, secretary, are added by resolution of the County Convention.

Summer Eight Infantry.

At a recent meeting of the Summer (S. C.) Light Infantry, Capt. D. J. Auld tendered his resignation as commanding officer, the company, however, by a unanimous vote declined to accept it and he was induced to serve another term. This company will leave on the 19th for Smithville, N. C., where they will spend a few weeks. A large number of citizens will accompany them, and the exhibition will doubtless be a most pleasant one. All members of the company will be required to attend in full uniform, and strict military discipline will be enforced during the entire trip.

Oswalo Wants the Railroad. A correspondent, writing from Catherine Lake, Oswalo county, says that the crops in that part of the country are looking well and the prospects are fine for a large harvest. "Let us have a railroad," he says, "from Richlands to Wilmington, and we will be lively people. Let us put our shoulders to the wheel and we will have a road in a short time—let us talk less and work more. We believe the good people of Wilmington will do their part—let us go to work and see what Oswalo can do to help them."

Foreign Exports. Messrs. Peterson, Downing & Co. cleared the Norwegian barque Eskdale yesterday, for Hull, Eng., with 8,545 barrels of rosin and 802 casks of spirits turpentine, valued at \$7,043.

Messrs. E. Kidder & Son cleared the British brig Georgia for Port Madryn, Patagonia, with 208,134 feet of lumber, valued at \$3,259.50.

The Oswalo Railroad Subscription. A conference of the Oswalo Railroad Commissioners and the Committee of the Board of Aldermen will be held this afternoon in the Mayor's room at the City Hall, to consider the advisability of the county of New Hanover making the proposed subscription to the road instead of the City of Wilmington. The committee appointed by the Board of Aldermen consists of Mayor Hall and Aldermen Dudley and Worth. It is understood that the Board of County Commissioners will be invited to the conference.

The Bennd's Moist Weather. The rainfall for the past twenty-four hours ending at 8 p. m. yesterday was 1.46 inches, nearly all of which fell between 1 and 2 a. m. The aggregate rainfall for the first fine days in July, as recorded at the Signal office in this city, is 81.81 inches—nearly an inch for each day—and exactly equal to the total amount of rainfall during the month of June.

A Colored Boy Drowned. Alfred Martin, a colored boy about fourteen years of age, was drowned in the river near the foot of Hanover street, late Friday evening. He went in swimming at the place mentioned with several other boys, and it is supposed was seized with cramps. He was a son of Harry Martin, a well known drayman. The body of the boy was recovered yesterday morning, near the place where he was seen to go down.

Foreign Exports. Messrs. Peterson, Downing & Co., shipped yesterday to Antwerp per Danish barque Biallo, 1,350 casks of spirit turpentine and 1,990 barrels of rosin, valued at \$31,142. Messrs. DeRosset & Co. cleared the Norwegian barque Pavia, for Hamburg, with 3,984 barrels of rosin, valued at \$3,745.

The cotton business at this port is practically over for the season. The receipts last week amount to only 13 bales, while the stock on hand is but 705. The receipts for the crop year, however, are 7,061 bales in excess of the receipts of last year, being 101,143 bales against 98,911. Only two marriage licenses were issued the past week by the county Register; both were for colored couples.

Proposed Arrangement for the Disposal of Voted Pension Bills—Ingersoll's Initiative in the Conduct of Officers of the Army.

WASHINGTON, July 9.—Chairman Mason, of the Invalid Pension Committee, is determined to insist upon the reference of all the voted bills to the committee on the subject, and when the House meets to-morrow he will again make a motion to refer each case. The Democratic leaders are resolved to "stay here all the summer if necessary"—as one of them put it—before abandoning their position in the matter. The Republican leaders have been most active in the effort to secure the immediate action on voted bills which have proposed a compromise which will probably be accepted. Under its terms two hours will be allowed for debate upon each of the bills as they are selected, and at the expiration of the time an eye and no vote will be taken, the result of which is to be regarded as final as to all of the votes.

The Committee on Accounts of the House of Representatives, as a result of its investigations into the conduct of officers of the Army, has decided to recommend a consolidation of the bills on this subject under one head. It reports will also call attention to the fact that employees have been the cause of the general distress, and members of the committee believe that no recommendation will be necessary to secure reform in this respect. The report will recommend that the change go into effect at the beginning of the next session.

WASHINGTON, July 8.—Representative William H. Tilden, of the Third Maryland District, died this morning at 7.30 o'clock, at his residence in this city, No. 609 Fourth street, in the 49th year of his age. Dr. Tilden was a native of Maryland, and had been a sufferer from Bright's disease for several years past, and his demise was not unexpected. He had been unable to attend the meetings of the House, of which he was a member, except once or twice, during the present session. The funeral ceremonies will take place in Baltimore next Saturday morning, and it is probable that the remains will be interred in the city of Baltimore.

The Speaker has appointed the following named members as the committee to represent the House in the celebration of the centennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence at Annapolis, Md., on the 22d of September, 1789. The members are: Compton, Gibson and McComas, of Maryland; Diddle, of South Carolina; Irion, of Louisiana; Wade, of Missouri; and Stone, of Kentucky.

WASHINGTON, July 10.—Representative Morrison's report on the Randall bill says: "The bill proposes to remove all internal taxes on tobacco, snuff and cigars, amounting on the basis of last year's receipts to \$28,000,000; on apple, peach and grape brandy to \$1,400,000; on spirits for use in the distilleries to \$1,000,000; on rum, \$700,000 to \$1,500,000 and believed to be at least \$1,000,000—making in the aggregate of internal revenue taxes to be removed \$30,400,000. In the entire bill estimates submitted with the bill as part of it, the reduction of revenue from customs on tariff goods is estimated at \$1,000,000, and \$3,750,000—making the aggregate of the proposed reductions \$45,000,000."

The President to-day vetoed the bill proposed for the creation of a public building at Asheville, N. C.

C. F. McDonald, Superintendent of the Money Order System of the Postoffice Department, has issued a circular letter to postmasters at money order offices that the act of Congress approved June 29, 1878, relating to the issue of money orders on orders not exceeding five dollars, is in full force on the 28th inst.

COTTON.

Report of the National Exchange for June—The Average Condition Lower than for Two Years.—(By Telegraph to the Morning Star.)

NEW ORLEANS, July 9.—The National Cotton Exchange report for the month of June, compiled by C. H. Parker, secretary, which is published in the meteorological record of June over the cotton belt is in striking contrast with that of the corresponding period of last year. The conditions have been abnormal over pretty nearly all the area east of the Mississippi. Within these limits, embracing the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, the bottom lands, particularly, have suffered severely, and the fertile black lands had lost much of the prospect they had. Over most of these States the early spring was unusually dry, and the rains were scanty. May conditions were not good and June has again lowered them a little and rendered the outcome more critical. The soil is very dry, and embracing as it does so large a percentage of upland, with favorable conditions, the outlook is not so bright as in seasons showing allowing farm work in clearing out grass and the absence of hot dry weather to bake plants which have been retarded by excessive moisture. There is room for improvement. It is to be noted that insect ravages, usually accompanying the August factor, closed to-day, and the suspension of the cotton crop has been slight, and stands which were not very good to start on have not been much impaired on that account. Over the district the crop is late and therefore exposed to the vicissitudes of the fall season. In the northern portion of the belt, however, the cotton has started and has held her own pretty well, and North Carolina is better than the coast district below her. Going west, the cotton has started in Louisiana, and in Arkansas and in Louisiana, the rains of June found the plants well rooted and the field conditions favorable. These prospects have very much improved, and in Texas, particularly, conditions are bright. The cotton is maturing in nearly all parts. The following is the condition by States: Virginia 30, North Carolina 70, South Carolina 72, Georgia 60, Alabama 60, Mississippi 78, Louisiana 92, Texas 98. Average for the States, 72. Six hundred and fifty cents on the spot, 92 last year and 85 the year before.

GEORGIA.

The Hill Troubles at Augusta—A Strike Approved in the Sibby Mill.—(By Telegraph to the Morning Star.)

Augusta, July 10.—As telegraphed on yesterday, the Augusta factory closed to-day because of the refusal to advance wages 15 per cent. The pickers' hands went out first and caused the mill to shut down, but all the other hands demanded a similar advance. There is no prospect of the mill starting up Monday. The strikers are firm in their demand and the mill officers are equally determined. Trouble is apprehended in the Sibby mill, where a like demand for higher wages has already been made, but there is no prospect of a strike. The King mill has already granted an advance of ten per cent, and everything is working smoothly in this factory. It is reported that the Augusta factory is a pretty thin drink for Tammany.

"We'll do better for you later," whilst per the grand sachem to him. Senator Vance concluded by a reference to the home rule agitation abroad, hoping that Ireland would soon obtain what America had had since 1776, local self-government.

The Senators who are afraid that the bill doing simple justice to Fitz John Porter is a deliberate attempt to "write the history of the war" are reminded that it has been reviewed in the magazines of late to such an extent that all that is positively known about it is that the South didn't get there.—Christian Herald.

THE BLAIR BILL AGAIN.

Advocate Citizen. In order to show what the Blair Educational bill really means, we quote the following from a recent speech of Hon. R. A. Pierce of Tennessee. Mr. Pierce said "that the advocates of the Blair bill told us that the States would have to raise by taxation an equal amount for the Government as they received from the government, and that the white people, who owned most all the property, would have to pay that tax, while the negro, with his preponderance of ignorance would reap the benefit. Also that the negro who was born in slavery would not be benefited, one dollar's worth directly, he being too old to receive an education, and only the negroes who were born under same rights as the whites would receive direct benefit, they receiving, under the provisions of the Blair bill, two thirds while the white children, whose parents paid very near all the taxes, would receive just one third. There is not a State in the South, should the Blair bill become a law, but what would have to increase its taxation."

WISCONSIN.

Forest Fires Threatening to Destroy an Epidemic of Typhoid Fever. MILWAUKEE, July 8.—A special from Stevens Point says that the woods along the line of the Wisconsin Central are on fire for miles. The damage to the timber is very great. Immediate rain is all that will save many sections from destruction. The cranberry marshes, west of Stevens Point, are on fire and a large force of men are battling with the destroyers.

CHICAGO. The Switchmen's Strike at Chicago. CHICAGO, July 8.—The striking switchmen of the Lake Shore road have issued a circular in which they condemn imported goods. They also suggested that "because of all good people, especially business men, to refuse to sell anything to these men."

At Armour & Co.'s place this morning the train men put in eight cars to load. Two gangs of men refused to load the cars and were discharged. They applied for employment at the Chicago, Rock Island and Provision Co.'s place and were refused. A number of carpenters working at Swift & Co.'s place this morning were driven away by a crowd of men and were driven away. The police were called and arrested three of the attacking party.

VIRGINIA.

Interesting Events Unearthed at Winchester—Violent Hill Storm at Staunton. WINCHESTER, July 8.—While digging a cistern yesterday on the site of Fort Loudoun, built by Washington after the battle of Brandywine in 1754, a circular containing postmasters at money order offices that the act of Congress approved June 29, 1878, relating to the issue of money orders on orders not exceeding five dollars, is in full force on the 28th inst.

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NEW YORK. A Suspended Firm of Cotton Brokers Resumes Business—An Execution in the Tombs. NEW YORK, July 9.—Messrs. J. & W. A. Beall & Co., extensive operators in cotton, have resumed business at the Cotton Exchange, having settled up their accounts in full.

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NEW YORK, July 9.—Messrs. J. & W. A. Beall & Co., extensive operators in cotton, have resumed business at the Cotton Exchange, having settled up their accounts in full.

Spirits Turpentine.

Wake, Johnston and such, the eastern half of this Congressional District, have had all the Representatives in Congress since 1850, except three months. The western end, composed of the counties of Chatham, Alamance, Orange and Durham, modestly asks how long will the Democrats of this section continue to allow this

New Bern Journal. A tract of seventy-five acres of land—40 cleared and 35 wood land—was sold at auction at Swau Quarter on the first Monday in this month and was knocked down at \$4,500, cash. —Crops in the Kingdom. It is reported to be doing and looking unusually fine, and so also are weeds and grass. —Famulo dolls. We regret to learn that lice are very seriously damaging cotton in many places. We hear that on the farms of Miss N. House, J. S. Wooten and others, near here, the cotton is nearly ruined in many places. —We have seen and heard of the crops from different sections of the country, and in every place the complaint is too much rain. The crops are not so prosperous as they appeared a month ago, especially corn.

Winston Daily. On last Sunday afternoon, August 8th, a fire occurred at the house of Calvin Fillmore, colored, on the Shadow Ford road, just outside the corner of the town of Winston. Calvin Fillmore, George Goin, John Goin and another colored man. It is not definitely known how the fire occurred, but liquor had been drunk in the evening and the entire crowd is reported to have been about half drunk. Fillmore's wife had been ill for several days and was in bed at the time of the fire. It is also reported to his mother that those who were engaged in the fight and that one man